
NEWS RELEASE

Judd Gregg

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GREGG CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING OF HIGHLAND CENTER

Senator also receives AMC's first ever "Conservation Champion" Award

TWIN MOUNTAIN, N.H. -- U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH) today toured the Appalachian Mountain Club's Highland Center during its ceremonial Grand Opening and was honored by the AMC with its first ever "Conservation Champion" award for his long term commitment to conservation in the State of New Hampshire. The Highland Center is AMC's newest destination for adventure, learning and lodging, offering lasting outdoor experiences for overnight and day visitors of all ages, for AMC members and the general public alike, through AMC's school programs, Teen Wilderness Adventures, skills training workshops, guided hikes, AMC chapter outings, interpretive programs and displays on natural and cultural history, and seminars. Senator Gregg joined U.S. Congressman Jeb Bradley (R-NH), as well as AMC President Laurie Burt, AMC Executive Director Andy Falender, AMC Deputy Director Walter Graff and other local officials at today's celebration.

Senator Gregg stated, "The new Highland Center is an absolutely tremendous facility and will provide an enormous benefit to people visiting Crawford Notch and the White Mountain National Forest. I have been fortunate to work closely with the AMC for years because we share an understanding of the importance of conservation and environmental education. AMC has a proven record of striving to inform and educate people through the region on the importance of conservation, science, research and outdoors information, and this Center signals the beginning of a new phase of educational opportunities being provided by AMC. I am honored to receive the Conservation Champion award for my work on the Trailhead Protection Program, and other important conservation projects in the White Mountains, the North Country and throughout New Hampshire, and sincerely thank AMC for all they do to keep the White Mountains one of the greatest outdoors destinations in the nation."

The Highland Center will serve as a base for AMC members as well as the general public to learn about and care for the surrounding environment, through Leave No Trace practices, land and water stewardship, and trail maintenance and will also provide a base for search and rescue in the White Mountains. The Center incorporates environmentally-sensitive design and landscaping, while preserving those historically significant buildings that remain on the site. A range of lodging options, including shared rooms with shared baths and private rooms with private baths, will be available, along with mountain fare served in a family-style setting. Classrooms, multi-purpose meeting rooms, and an assembly/display hall will support the many programs offered to guests of all ages.

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